

HUMAN EVENTS

12 JUNE 1982

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 4**RNC Debate Ahead****Will White House Block Anti-Red Trade Measure?**

Is the White House on a collision course with hardline Republican opponents of trade with the Communists? Could be. On May 21, the President's political affairs aide, Ed Rollins, circulated a memo to three top White House aides—Ed Meese, Jim Baker and Bill Clark—Secretary of State Alexander Haig and a few others protesting a proposed anti-Red trade resolution authored by Vice Chairman Dennis Dunn of the Republican National Committee.

Dunn, a national committeeman from Washington State, plans to submit his resolution for consideration at the RNC's June 17-19 meeting. Dunn's resolution, as HUMAN EVENTS disclosed in our May 29 issue, resolves that the RNC urge the Reagan Administration to: 1) declare Poland's debt to the United States in default; 2) refuse to approve rescheduling of any debt owed to the U.S. Government or U.S. banks by the Warsaw Pact powers unless Lech Walesa is freed, martial law in Poland is eliminated and the Soviets withdraw their troops from Afghanistan.

Dunn would also have the RNC urge the President to extend controls over critical oil and gas equipment needed for the Siberian gas pipeline that the Soviets are counting on to make Western Europe more dependent on Soviet energy supplies and to earn foreign currency.

But Rollins, who successfully talked Dunn out of submitting a milder anti-Red trade resolution before the RNC last January, is dead-set against the more potent version as well. In his May 21 memo, Rollins, calling attention to the Dunn resolution, stressed: "I think it would be in the best interests of this Administration to stop this resolution from being passed and would appreciate any

pertinent information you could provide on this issue to my office."

Dunn has already been contacted about possibly withdrawing his resolution by Jack Courtemanche, a national committeeman from California who is believed to have close ties to the White House. Talked out of his January resolution, Dunn has told friends he's in this battle to stay, and that only a call from President Reagan might change his mind.

Meanwhile, he's receiving some heavyweight support for his effort. Sen. Robert Kasten (R.-Wis.), whose own measure calling for the U.S. to declare Poland in default swept the Senate two weeks ago, is strongly behind Dunn.

Rep. John LeBoutillier (R.-N.Y.), the rising Republican comet in the House, is planning to send out a packet of anti-Red trade material—including a recent CIA study, "Soviet Acquisition of Western Technology,"—to every RNC delegate.

Referring to the Dunn resolution, Rep. LeBoutillier declares: "It is important to see that the principal elements of this resolution—the Polish default, the use of Western credits to finance East Bloc economic development, the construction of the Soviet natural gas pipeline, and the transfer of high technology to the Soviet Union—all bear a direct relationship to the massive build-up of Soviet military capability...."

"For example, one \$20 million transaction giving the Soviet Union the Centalign B precision grinding machine made possible such accurate guidance systems for Soviet ICBMs that the United States has been forced to modernize its strategic forces at a Congressional Budget Office estimate of over \$100 billion."

Vigorously urging support of the Dunn resolution, LeBoutillier stresses: "In simple terms, the over-riding issue is: Are we going to continue to allow, and even encourage, Western financial institutions to bankroll the Soviet military machine?"

The Dunn measure says we shouldn't, but Ed Rollins—and possibly his White House friends—seem intensely interested in stopping the RNC from embracing the hard-hitting anti-Red trade resolution.